

thereof, a composition comprising a thrombopoietin [TPO] protein selected from the group consisting of:

(a) proteins comprising the sequence of amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acid residue 45 to amino acid residue 379;

(b) allelic variants of (a); and

(c) species homologs of (a) or (b), wherein said thrombopoietin protein stimulates proliferation or differentiation of myeloid or lymphoid progenitors, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle in an amount sufficient to produce an increase in proliferation or differentiation of erythroid cells.

6-15. (amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the thrombopoietin [TPO] comprises a sequence of amino acids selected from the group consisting of:

[the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 1 to residue 172;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 1 to residue 173;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 1 to residue 175;]

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 1 to residue 353; and

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 22 to residue 353[;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 22 to residue 172;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 22 to residue 173;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 22 to residue 175;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 28 to residue 172;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 28 to residue 173;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2  
from amino acid residue 28 to residue 175; and

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2  
from amino acid residue 28 to residue 353].

*Sub B<sup>2</sup>* 18. (amended) A method for stimulating erythropoiesis comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof, a composition comprising a thrombopoietin [TPO] protein selected from the group consisting of:

*013* (a) proteins comprising the sequence of amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acid residue 45 to amino acid residue 379;

(b) allelic variants of (a); and

(c) species homologs of (a) or (b), wherein said thrombopoietin protein stimulates proliferation or differentiation of myeloid or lymphoid progenitors, and erythropoietin [EPO], in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle in an amount sufficient to produce an increase in proliferation or differentiation of erythroid cells.

*15* ~~25~~. (amended) The method of claim ~~18~~<sup>15</sup>, wherein the thrombopoietin [TPO] comprises a sequence of amino acids selected from the group consisting of:

[the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 1 to residue 172;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 1 to residue 173;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 1 to residue 175;]

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 1 to residue 353; and

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 22 to residue 353[;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 22 to residue 172;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 22 to residue 173;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 22 to residue 175;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 28 to residue 172;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 28 to residue 173;

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 28 to residue 175; and

the sequence of amino acids shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid residue 28 to residue 353].

28. (amended) A method for stimulating erythropoiesis comprising administering to a patient in need thereof, a composition comprising a thrombopoietin [TPO] protein selected from the group consisting of:

(a) proteins comprising the sequence of amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acid residue 45 to amino acid residue 379;

(b) allelic variants of (a); and

(c) species homologs of (a) or (b), wherein said thrombopoietin protein stimulates the proliferation or stimulation of myeloid or lymphoid progenitors, and erythropoietin [EPO], in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, in an amount sufficient for increasing reticulocyte counts at least 2-fold over baseline reticulocyte counts within fourteen days.

29. (amended) A method for stimulating erythropoiesis comprising administering to a patient in need thereof, a composition comprising a thrombopoietin [TPO] protein selected from the group consisting of:

(a) proteins comprising the sequence of amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acid residue 45 to amino acid residue 379;

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(b) allelic variants of (a); and  
(c) species homologs of (a) or (b), wherein said  
thrombopoietin protein stimulates proliferation or  
differentiation of myeloid or lymphoid progenitors, in  
combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, in  
an amount sufficient for increasing reticulocyte counts at  
least 2-fold over baseline reticulocyte counts within  
fourteen days.

30. (amended) A method for stimulating erythropoiesis comprising administering to a patient in need thereof, a composition comprising a thrombopoietin [TPO] protein selected from the group consisting of:

(a) proteins comprising the sequence of amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acid residue 45 to amino acid residue 379;

(b) allelic variants of (a); and

(c) species homologs of (a) or (b), wherein said  
thrombopoietin proteins stimulates proliferation or  
differentiation of myeloid or lymphoid progenitors, and  
erythropoietin [EPO], in combination with a  
pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, in an amount  
sufficient for increasing reticulocyte counts at least 2-  
fold over baseline reticulocyte counts and platelet levels  
to at least 20,000/mm<sup>3</sup> within fourteen days.

Please cancel claims 14 and 23.

#### REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is requested. Claims 9-13, 15-22, and 24-30 are now in the case. Claims 9, 15, 18, 25, 28, 29, and 30 have been amended. Claims 1-8, 14 and 23 have been canceled.

The Examiner has objected to the specification and requested a statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.821(f),